

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 085403

22

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /081 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W-GADIES/JKBISHOP:DFP

APPROVED BY AF/W-TWMSMITH

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R 090004Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 085403

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:EAID, PFOR, DM, US, CA

SUBJECT:DISCUSSION WITH CANADIAN OFFICIALS ON AID TO BENIN

REF: COTONOU 526

1. AF/W OFFICERS MET APRIL 5 AT THEIR INITIATIVE WITH KAY
PETERSON, CANADIAN EMBASSY THIRD SECRETARY IN CHARGE OF
AFRICAN AFFAIRS, TO DISCUSS RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN BENIN.
WE SAID USG UNDERSTANDS GPRB FORMIN ALLADAYE MAY SOON VISIT

OTTAWA TO DISCUSS CANADIAN ASSISTANCE AND MIGHT ASK CANADA
TO FUND DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AMOUNT OF US LOAN AND PRESENT
COST OF COTONOU BRIDGE. WE EXPLAINED USG WANTED CANADIAN
GOVERNMENT TO BE AWARE THAT US MIGHT NOT PROVIDE ANY FUNDS
FOR BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION DUE UNRESOLVED DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
USG AND GPRB. DEPT OFFS THEN OUTLINED RECENT DEVELOPMENTS
IN BILATERAL RELATIONS. WE ALSO INFORMED PETERSON THAT
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PAGE 02 STATE 085403

ALLADAYE HAS WRITTEN LETTER TO SECRETARY ASKING FOR APPOINT-

MENT WHEN HE VISITS WASHINGTON DURING LATTER HALF OF APRIL.

2. PETERSON SAID THAT SHE HAD ASKED OTTAWA FOR DATES OF PLANNED ALLADAYE VISIT THERE (HE IS EXPECTED ARRIVE APRIL 21 FOR THREE-DAY VISIT). HOWEVER, SHE WAS UNAWARE OF AGENDA FOR VISIT. SHE ASKED THAT WE KEEP HER INFORMED AS

TO HOW ALLADAYE'S VISIT HERE PROGRESSES.

3. MARCH 31, IN THE COURSE OF INAUGURAL SESSION OF CLUB DES AMIS DU SAHEL IN DAKAR, AF/W DIRECTOR BRIEFED SICARD, DIRGEN FOR FRANCOPHONE AFRICA OF CIDA, AND GAUTHIER, DIRECTOR, COOPERATION, EXTAFF ON US RELATIONS WITH BENIN. SICARD SAID CIDA DID NOT HAVE FUNDS AVAILABLE TO COVER SHORTFALL FOR COTONOU BRIDGE. HE AND GAUTHIER AGREED KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH ON THIS ISSUE. SISCO

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